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A SPOKESPERSON FOR COLORADO'S TRANS-GENDERED COMMUNITY

To the Editor :

On thursday Aug. 26 the Lambda Report aired a panel discussion with several spokespersons from various gay & lesbian organizations. The subject was (Is the gay & lesbian community really a community ?) The conversation led to the questions of who do we want to include in the community, and does the gay & lesbian community want to be a community at all ?

The speakers from GLCCC and Ground Zero spoke of a unified community with inclusion of all subgroups. That all the gay & lesbian people, subgroups and organizations play an important part in society and the gay & lesbian rights movement. That all groups and backgrounds of the gay & lesbian people belong together and do have a sence of community. That lines should not be drawn seperating the community.

The speakers from the National Gay & Lesbian Task force and Boycott Colorado seemed to have just the opposite opinion. The Boycott Colorado speaker said we should not be a community because that puts us all in one basket and makes us vulnerable. The Task Force speaker said she was lesbian and didnt want gay included into her group, why should it be. Both these speakers seemed to think theres nothing wrong with drawing lines seperating the subgroups. That we are not a community and should not be a community.

Recently I have observed the birth of more gay & lesbian subgroups than I thought could possibly exhist. Lately the gay & lesbian community is busy drawing lines of seperation within their community. Many of our different groups seem to have a growing intolerance for the other. Like drawing a line in the sand and saying ," You can only cross the line if....." Some of us are getting tired of trying to sweep away the lines. *The broom handle is becoming cracked and may soon break.!*

The Black community can accept all of us, the words spoken at the Equal Rights March On Washington Aug. 28 really made me feel good. The Pagan community has also shown to me that they dont care what I am , but who I am. Why is it they can accept all of us as a community, as fellow human beings, and we cant accept ourselves.?? WHY WHY WHY !

Diversity is not just gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people. Diversity is the people of this earth, the people of every shape size and color. Those who express their inner self as an individual. I see that we all have two choices. We can share the dream of Dr. Martin Luthar King, and cherish the diversity of our people ; or we can continue our present path of segregation, a path of becoming bigots.!

I am very greatfull to the panel members for taking the time to address this important issue.

sincerely, *Christy Hopping*